

Minutes of the ACL Council Meeting
held on 29 January 2026
 online, via Teams
 10am



Council members present: David Bailey-Vella (DBV), Victoria Morrison-Hughes (VMH), Julian Caddick (JC), Kris Kilsby (KK), (AD), Nathan Cameron (NC), Jane Risley (JR), Nicholas Lee (NL) & Nick Northrop (NN)

Also present: Carol Calver (CC) Head of Operations

The meeting started at 10:00

Item	
1	Welcome and apologies
1.1	Apologies were received from Amy Dunkley
2	Minutes of the council meeting held on 15 th December 2025
2.1	It was unanimously agreed that the draft minutes of 15 th December meeting were an accurate reflection. Redacted items were approved.
3	Actions arising from the council meeting held on 15 th December
3.1	Actions were reviewed and updated.
4	Chairman's Report
4.1	DBV confirmed that Tracy Savage has commenced her first term as Chair of ACL Training.
4.2	Council discussed the Fellow membership category - routes to apply and approval process.
4.3	DBV asked Council to consider the implications of extending the standard Council term from 3 to 5 years. This was discussed at length with appreciation of why a 5 year term could be beneficial as it gives Council longer to settle into committee roles and being able to fully contribute - it was felt in general that it may be seen as a barrier for members applying feeling they were committed to a longer term. A shorter term also allows for a 'refresh' of Council. An initial 3 year term with an optional extension was also discussed.
5	PR & Marketing Committee Report
5.1	NC updated Council on the Why Be campaign in collaboration with the CLSB and ACL Training. CC has reduced the group to a more manageable decision making panel. NL will represent ACL with support from Operations, PR-AM and Education as required.
5.2	The ACL in Conversation event has been re-scheduled for March 25 th , with bookings open online for a limited capacity of 50 attendees.
5.3	The majority of Council will attend the Modern Law Awards ceremony in April with NC requesting full analysis post event of ROI, alongside the LexisNexis Awards sponsorship.

5.4	Dominic Regan has accepted the invitation for Keynote speaker at Manchester Conference, other confirmed speakers are CJ Nagalingam and Sean Linley. DBV suggested PR-AM consider past Chairs as speakers, for conferences following their terms end.
5.5	Following a previous PR-AM discussion CC asked Council to consider Corporate Sponsorship packages, perhaps to be offered for the 50 th Anniversary year initially. NL to provide information from previous package offerings he has been involved in.
6	Policy Committee Report
6.1	<p>KK detailed the three consultations the ACL plan to respond to in February and March.</p> <p>LSB Business Plan LSB Diversity Consultation MoJ Interest on Client Account Scheme</p> <p>The ACL will work alongside the CLSB and the LAG in formalising responses ensuring a consistent message from both organisations.</p>
6.2	VMH detailed to Council ongoing discussion with the CLSB for a change to the CL Code of Conduct with regards to holding client money and an offer from an external 3 rd party management fund, <i>redacted due to confidentiality</i> .
7	Education Committee Report
7.1	NN updated Council on the Apprenticeship application, which had been submitted to the DoE and now goes to DWP for full approval. We are still anticipating a September 2026 launch date with a cut off in May if not approved by then.
7.2	Scholarship Applications have been received and collated with Nick, Jane and Nicholas reviewing and awarding the recipient for this intake.
8	Finance & Internal Policy Committee Report
8.1	JC confirmed that NC was assisting in the Prec G review and asked for Council thoughts on including a Prec S review. Council agreed it would be sensible with KK suggesting the CoP eBill document is a good example of a user-friendly document.
8.2	JC directed Council to the About Us pages on the ACL website following an update due to non-members detailing ACL membership or qualification on their own website profiles. JC asked Council to review this alongside the member category classification and feedback comments.
8.3	JC updated Council on investment values, <i>redacted due to confidentiality</i> .
9	Operations Report
9.1	CC detailed to Council the intent to provide some brief guidance to members on ICO awareness and HMRC Making Tax Digital – this will be through the eBulletin and Social Media.
9.2	Council formally voted on offering subscription dispensation to members following parental leave. All Council members voted in favor. CC will update policy and accounting processes.
9.3	CC shared with Council logo concepts for ACL Training 25 years and ACL 50 years – with some minor amendments suggested.

10	Any other business
10.1	
11	Date of next meeting
11.1	The next meeting is Tuesday 24 th February at Pogust Goodhead in London, 10am to 2pm.